



# USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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## NATIONAL BROILER MARKET-AT-A-GLANCE



Market conditions were viewed as generally steady in terminal areas. Most retail outlets had some form of poultry at attractive pricing prominently displayed following the holiday week. Previous negotiations kept floor stocks at sufficient levels to service a light to moderate call for additional product. Food service needs were satisfied by adequate supplies for a good demand. In production areas product was available, but was manageable, partly due to reductions in slaughter schedules. Whole-body product was held with increased confidence, white meat parts continued to be discounted, and bone-in and boneless dark meat held generally steady on pricing. Wings appeared to be short of full needs with additional sales held for full market values. Grow out regions reported adequate field supplies at desirable weights.

**GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES** The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for next week's trading declined .25 cents to 70.50 cents based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 73.25 cents last year on December 29, 2004.

Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted prices on ice-packed parts for next week's trading.

ITEM	DOCK PRICE (CENTS PER POUND)
LINE RUN TENDERS	137.50
BREASTS - B/S	109.50
BREASTS - WHOLE	58.00
THIGH MEAT - B/S	92.50
LEG QUARTERS	29.00
WINGS	83.00

This information is supplied by the Georgia Department of Agriculture's Poultry Market News Service.

**SOUTHERN REGION** Trade sentiment was generally steady. Retail demand was light to moderate; Best into fast food outlets. Supplies were generally sufficient to satisfy trade needs. However, planned processing schedules were lighter for current and next week. In the parts structure, trading was light to fair. Wings were in the best position and continued to move and clear satisfactorily. Breast items were at least adequate to available with limited interest. In production areas, live supplies were moderate to heavy. Weights were mixed, but mostly desirable.

**NORTHEAST REGION** Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was fair to moderate during mid week trading. Offerings of smaller sizes were noted as adequate to instances tight; heavier sizes were at least adequate. Retail and distributive movement was seasonally light to fair. The market tone was mostly steady. In the parts complex, wings were well cleared. Breast items were fully adequate to readily available. Dark meat cuts were at least adequate.

**MIDWEST REGION** Whole broiler/fryer market tone was steady. Offerings were light to moderate, but sufficient for trade needs. Fill-in trade noted into Chicago area on 3 up wog's at 48 cents. Retail movement was light to fair. Food service trade was fairly good; best into fast food, sports bars. Floor stocks were closely balance for the most part; weights desirable. Parts trade was quiet with most interest centering on wings. Supplies of wings were tight and wanted; all other parts were available and slow to clear. The market tone firm on wings; steady to fully steady on boneless dark meat; about steady, instances weak on breast cuts; and barely steady to weak on bone-in dark meat cuts.

**WESTERN REGION** The market tone was generally steady. Offerings were fully adequate for current needs. Retailer demand was moderate; good where featured. Floor stocks were adequate.

## BROILER-TYPE EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES UP 2 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-State weekly program set 214 million eggs in incubators during the week ending December 24, 2005. This was up 2 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 83 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

## BROILER CHICKS UP 2 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 19-State weekly program placed 175 million chicks for meat production during the week ending December 24, 2005. Placements were up 2 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from January 2, 2005 through December 24, 2005 were 8.87 billion, up 1 percent from the same period a year earlier.

## BROILER-TYPE EGGS SET AND BROILER CHICKS PLACED TOTAL 19 SELECTED STATES

WEEK ENDING 12/24/05	2005	2004	PERCENT CHANGE PREVIOUS YEAR
EGGS SET	214,236	209,901	+02
CHICKS PLACED	175,082	171,547	+02

Source: USDA, NASS

**WEEKLY FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING** Based on the preliminary chick placements, the number of fryers available for marketing during the week ending 04-Feb-06 is estimated at 161.5 million head. This compares to 160.1 million head the previous week and to 162.5 million head the same week a year ago, when the slaughter was 158.5 million head and the composite weighted average price was 71.50 cents per pound.

**SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS**

F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED-PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS), TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME, CENTS PER POUND.

ITEM	POUNDS (000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	600	84.00-148.00	88-92	93.33
TENDERLOINS		TOO FEW TO REPORT		
BREAST - LINE RUN		TOO FEW TO REPORT		
FRONT HALVES		TOO FEW TO REPORT		
LEGS	161	29.00-51.00	30-32	30.86
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	630	18.00-25.00	20-22	20.56
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,275	20.00-31.00	24-25	23.89
WINGS (WHOLE)	295	74.00-82.00	77-79	76.98
WINGS (CUT)	260	95.00-100.00	96-99	98.13
DRUMSTICKS		TOO FEW TO REPORT		
THIGHS		TOO FEW TO REPORT		
B/S THIGHS		TOO FEW TO REPORT		

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR DECEMBER 28, 2005 — F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
32.50 - 37.50	34.58	33.97

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

**NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS**

Trucklot buying activity was generally light to fair during mid week trading as dealers were cautious and selective. Offerings of breast items were fully adequate to ample and competitively priced. Dark meat cuts were at least adequate to fully adequate. Wings were in good balance and clearing satisfactorily. Retail and distributive movement was mostly fair. The market tone was fully steady to firm for wings; barely steady to weak for breast items. The balance of items were no better than steady.

ICE PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, CENTS PER POUND

ITEM	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	100-105	99.14	667,760
TENDERLOINS	95-100	96.32	230,095
BREAST - WITH RIBS	51-52	61.65	85,200
BREAST - LINE RUN	51	51.36	99,720
LEGS	39-40	40.28	250,920
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	22-23	23.87	332,040
DRUMSTICKS	29-30	35.76	127,520
THIGHS	32-33	41.44	48,990
B/S THIGHS	95-96	93.54	133,480
WINGS (WHOLE)	81-82	82.26	206,720
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	10.87	22,680
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	50-55	53.17	21,206
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	70-75	74.69	20,440

\*\*\*\*\*

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG).

\* TODAY'S NEGOTIATED SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

\*\* WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

**ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)**

	ESTIMATED		ACTUAL		AVG WTS		ACTUAL		AVG WTS
	(1,000)		(1,000)				(1,000)		
	12/28	12/27	12/26	12/23	12/26	12/23	12/21	12/19	
Alabama	3,972	4,101	(A)	2,508	(A)	4.74	3,984	5.49	
Arkansas	5,266	5,371	(A)	3,144	(A)	4.86	5,256	5.36	
Delmarva	2,330	2,335	(A)	2,089	(A)	5.73	2,238	5.90	
KY-LA-TN	2,292	2,279	(A)	1,827	(A)	4.87	2,074	4.97	
Mississippi	3,040	3,039	Holiday	2,618	Holiday	5.29	2,817	5.63	
North Carolina	2,570	2,579	(A)	2,090	(A)	6.90	2,463	6.70	
Texas	2,450	2,466	(A)	2,435	(A)	5.22	2,339	5.31	
Total	21,920	22,170	4,773	16,711	5.60	5.33	21,171	5.59	
Mon-Wed	47,917(B)						62,817 (B)		

(A) Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations

(B) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 28-Dec-05 is estimated to be 32,795,000 head up 3.23 percent from a week ago and up 1,336.49 percent from a year ago. (Last week 31,769,000, last year 2,283,000)

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY**

DELIVERED TO RETAILERS	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	97-99
ROASTERS 4# & UP	99-107
HENS UNDER 5#	-
HENS OVER 5#	65-73
DUCKS	
RABBITS-WHOLE	
RABBITS-CUT UP	

**SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY**

DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS	
FRESH FRYERS	DRY PACK 114
	ICE PACK 89-105
ROASTERS 4# & UP	DRY PACK 118
	ICE PACK 88-102
HENS OVER 5#	DRY PACK 109
	ICE PACK 88-102
DUCKS	185-190

**ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER**

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING 31-Dec-05

CLASS	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK
	12/31/05 (1)	12/24/05
THOUSAND HEAD		
Broiler/fryer	142,201 (2)	150,374
Light hens	1,068	1,513
Heavy hens	1,174	1,332
Total	144,443	153,219

(1)ESTIMATED (2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 31-Dec-05 is 157.9 million head compared to 139.3 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 142.5 million head or 15.4 million less than estimated available. For the week of 07-Jan-05 the estimated available is 155.4 million head.

**WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS-SELECTED STGE CENTERS**  
(INCL GOVT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEY	PROCESSED POULTRY
	LBS	LBS
AM 12/26/05	29,007	68,439
AM 12/01/05	33,192	75,095
CHG	-4,185	-6,656
PCT CHG	-13	-9

**COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT** (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	12/26/05	12/19/05	12/27/04	12/26/05	12/19/05	12/27/04
<b>PACIFIC</b>						
<b>COAST</b>	334	349	2,360	5,400	5,350	7,712
<b>LOS ANGELES</b>	35	45	37	3,088	3,047	4,121

**CENTRAL MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY RTC HENS**

READY-TO-COOK PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR DELIVERY TO FIRST RECEIVERS, U.S. GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 LBS. AND UP, FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 26, 2005

HENS	RANGE	
	ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	76-80
	VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	82-86

**HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES**

FOR 12/27/05

AI PAPERS REQUIRED TO SELL ALL OUT OF STATE POULTRY

	LOW HIGH AVG				LOW HIGH AVG		
	1.00	1.40	1.17		2.00	6.00	
HEAVY FOWL lb.	-	-	-	HEAVY FOWL ea.	-	-	-
LIGHT FOWL lb.	-	-	-	LIGHT FOWL ea.	-	-	-
MIXED FOWL lb.	-	-	-	MIXED FOWL ea.	-	-	-
BANTAMS lb.	-	-	-	BANTAMS ea.	-	-	-
BROILERS lb.	-	-	-	BROILERS ea.	-	-	-
ROASTERS lb.	-	-	-	ROASTERS ea.	-	-	-
FRYERS lb.	-	-	-	FRYERS ea.	-	-	-
CHICKS lb.	-	-	-	CHICKS ea.	-	-	-
PULLETS lb.	-	-	-	PULLETS ea.	-	-	-
BUNNIES lb.	-	-	-	BUNNIES ea.	-	-	-
ROOSTERS lb.	-	-	-	ROOSTERS ea.	-	-	-
GEESE lb.	-	-	-	GEESE ea.	-	-	-
TURKEYS lb.	-	-	-	TURKEYS ea.	-	-	-
DUCKS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKS ea.	-	-	-
RABBITS lb.	.10	1.90	1.32	RABBITS ea.	-	-	-
PIGEONS lb.	-	-	-	PIGEONS ea.	2.00	6.00	-
GUINEA FOWL lb.	-	-	-	GUINEA FOWL ea.	-	-	-
DUCKLINGS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKLINGS ea.	-	-	-
SILKIES ea.	-	-	-	CALL DUCKS ea.	-	-	-
GUINEA PIGS ea.	-	-	-	GOSLINGS ea.	-	-	-
CHUKARS ea.	-	-	-	TURKEY POULTS ea.	-	-	-
TOTAL COOPS	29						

**MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS - Mexico City**

Cents per pound for the week ending December 23, 2005

	<u>Whole</u>		<u>Legs</u>	<u>Necks, Backs</u>	<u>Livers/</u>	
	<u>Chickens</u>	<u>Breasts</u>	<u>W/ Thighs</u>	<u>&amp; Wings</u>	<u>Gizzards</u>	<u>Hens</u>
RAYON						
Low	42.54	131.86	85.07	8.51	4.25	55.30
High	65.93	144.62	93.58	12.76	8.51	55.30
Mostly	65.93	136.12	89.33	12.76	4.25	55.30
SAN JUAN						
Low	42.54	136.12	85.07	8.51	4.25	55.30
High	68.06	144.62	93.58	17.01	8.51	55.30
Mostly	42.54	136.12	93.58	12.76	4.25	55.30
NEW SAN JUAN						
Low	38.28	131.86	85.07	8.51	4.25	55.30
High	65.93	136.12	89.33	17.01	8.51	55.30
Mostly	63.80	136.12	89.33	17.01	8.51	55.30
BECERRA						
Low	42.54	136.12	85.07	12.76	4.25	55.30
High	70.19	140.37	93.58	17.01	12.76	55.30
Mostly	42.54	140.37	93.58	17.01	8.51	55.30

**DELMARVA**

Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was seasonal but some what improved and reported as fairly active. Offerings were adequate to instances tight on lighter weight sizes. Live supplies were moderate; weights were desirable to heavy. Processor schedules were moderately heavy. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 56 to 70 cents. Trade sentiment was mostly steady. In the parts complex, wings were in good balance to well cleared. Balance of items were at least adequate to available.

\*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA

**BRANDED  
U.S. GRADE A**

RANGE  
WEIGHTED AVERAGE  
NO. OF BOXES

44-75  
(A)  
(A)

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